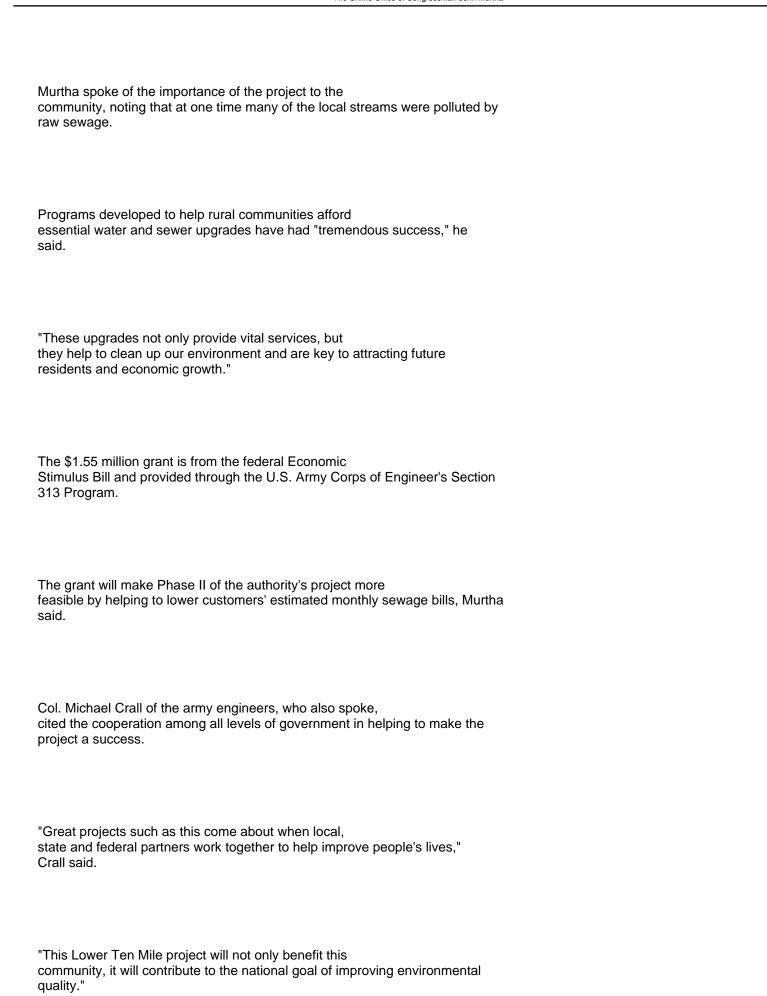
## August 18, 2009 - Feds Promise \$1.55M for Lower Ten Mile Sewers

The Observer-Reporter www.observer-reporter.com Feds promise \$1.55M for Lower Ten Mile sewers By Bob Niedbala, Staff writer August 18, 2009 JEFFERSON - Federal, state and local officials gathered Monday to mark the completion of a \$2.2 million line extension project by the Lower Ten Mile Joint Sewer Authority on Sandy Plains Road and Route 188 in Morgan Township. The occasion also provided the setting for the announcement of \$1.55 million in additional grant money for the second phase of the project. aimed at providing sewerage to Stony Point and Reeseman's Trailer Court. U.S. Rep. John P. Murtha, D-Johnstown, announced the funding for Phase II of the authority's expansion project at a gathering at the Jefferson fire hall.

He was joined by officials from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as well as by state Sen. J. Barry Stout, D-Bentleyville, county commissioners, township supervisors and authority members.



The first phase of the project was started last August and completed several weeks ago.

It included construction of 3,500 feet of sewer line along Route 188 from St. Marcellus Church to Wilson Forestry Products and 2,000 feet of line along Sandy Plains Road.

Phase I was completed with a \$1.58 million USDA Rural Development loan; a \$450,000 Army Corps grant; a \$200,000 Appalachian Regional Commission grant; and \$43,000 from the sewer authority.

The second phase is estimated to cost \$11.5 million and includes the installation of 15,600 feet of sanitary sewers, 1,000 feet of force main and two pump stations, as well as expansion of the Mather and Williamstown treatment plants. It will serve 165 homes.

The two plants are now in violation of state Department of Environmental Protection requirements because they are considered to be "hydraulically overloaded."

In addition to the \$1.55 million announced Monday, the authority expects to receive \$150,000 from the county and \$288,000 from the authority through tap-in fees, said authority engineer Robert Dengler II.

The authority also has been offered about \$9.7 million in loans from USDA Rural Development.

However, Dengler said, if the authority were to accept the full loan amount, it could make customers' monthly bills too expensive. Accordingly, the authority will be seeking additional grant money from federal and state sources, he said.

The authority serves about 1,400 customers in Jefferson and Clarksville boroughs and Morgan and Jefferson townships in Greene County and in East Bethlehem Township in Washington County.